

REMARKS

The specification has been amended where necessary to comply with the Examiner's requirement in the Office Action of May 12, 2004 to incorporate the limitations of original claims 4-9 in the specification.

The limitations of claims 4-6 have been inserted on page 4, after line 28. The limitation to the average moisture content of the untreated wood in claim 6 is already set forth on page 2, line 32.

The limitations of claim 7 have been inserted in the first paragraph on page 4.

The limitations of claims 8 and 9 are already set forth in the second paragraph on page 4.

In addition, the specification has been amended to delete reference to claim numbers.


In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 8, 2005

By: 
Arthur S. Garrett
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